

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1908.
Rain to-day; fair to-morrow, with moderate temperature; southerly winds, shifting to westerly.

PLACE OFFERED CORTELYOU

UNION TRUST CO. INVITES HIM TO BECOME PRESIDENT.

He is considering the matter, but some of the trustees think he may refuse. Three of his predecessors in office have come to New York Trust Co.

Secretary of the Treasury George B. Cortelyou has been invited to become president of the Union Trust Company to fill the vacancy created by the death of Edward King. Mr. Cortelyou has taken the offer under consideration, but has given the trustees no other indication that he is inclined to accept. One of them yesterday thought that their negotiations with the Secretary rather pointed to an opposite termination, but expressed the wish that the offer might meet the Secretary's approval.

The office is one of the most dignified and important in local financial circles, for the Union Trust is one of the oldest and most conservative trust companies of the city and ranks fourth in resources, being surpassed in this latter respect only by the Central Trust, the Farmers Loan and Trust and the United States Trust. It was organized in 1864, has a capital of \$1,000,000, surplus and undivided profits of \$8,180,000 and according to the last report to the State Banking Department \$58,887,000 deposits and \$36,700,000 loans. It pays dividends at the annual rate of 50 per cent.

In the panic the president of the company, the late Edward King, was chairman of the trust companies committee which devised methods for raising money for the assistance of trust companies on which there were runs, and the officers thus had opportunity to secure at first hand information regarding the importance of Mr. Cortelyou's work here at that time, his knowledge of financial affairs and his promptness and effectiveness in dealing with critical situations.

Together with others who came into close association with the Secretary at that time the directors were impressed with his ability in financial affairs, and there is little doubt that his action in the panic brought forth the offer. At any rate it was said the directors were of one mind in the endeavor to secure Mr. Cortelyou's services for their institution.

The Union Trust also occupied a prominent part in the panic from the fact that John D. Rockefeller acted through it in the important measures of relief which he put through independently. It was generally reported and has since been currently believed that Mr. Rockefeller drew on the institution for \$100,000, which he used in relieving embarrassment in various quarters. Mr. Rockefeller has long had his personal account in the company, but the company never has been considered a Standard Oil company.

The committee of trustees which laid the offer before the secretary was composed of James T. Woodward, president of the Bankers National Bank; W. Emlen Roosevelt and Charles H. Tweed. The other trustees are Walter P. Bliss, Amory S. Cabot, Alexander Smith Cochran, Frederic de P. Foster, Harrison E. Gahwy, R. W. Gould, J. Van Rensselaer Kennedy, Augustus W. Shortridge, James Speyer, John B. Thayer, R. T. Wilson and William Woodward.

If Mr. Cortelyou accepts the offer he will be the fourth successive Secretary of the Treasury to leave the Department for the presidency of a New York trust company. Charles S. Fairchild started the succession by becoming head of the New York Security and Trust. His successor in the Treasury Department, Lyman J. Gage, became head of the United States Trust and his successor, Leslie M. Shaw, took the chief office in the then newly organized Carnegie Trust.

While the reorganization of the Knickerbocker Trust Company was in progress the reorganizers offered the presidency of that institution to Mr. Cortelyou. He was the first choice for the position. Mr. Cortelyou declined because he desired to remain and complete work that he considered necessary in the Treasury Department. With a change of administration in the near future it was thought that Mr. Cortelyou might not feel himself bound by any such consideration now. Furthermore, the present offer is much more attractive than was the offer to undertake the hard work of reestablishing a suspended institution.

FREE HOURS ON 11TH AVENUE.

Trains Prohibited in Rush Hours and When School Children Are Crossing. The Public Service Commission issued yesterday an order to the New York Central Railroad that freight must not be run through Eleventh avenue in the rush hours and in the hours when school children cross the tracks.

The order directs that no freight trains shall be operated between the hours of 10 A. M. and noon on Sunday and on all other days of the week between 6:40 and 7:20 A. M., between 8:15 and 9 A. M., between 11:30 A. M. and 12:45 P. M., between 2:50 and 3:10 P. M., between 4:45 P. M. and 5:15 P. M. and between 6:45 and 6:15 P. M.

It is provided that in case of weather or other conditions which prevent the moving of freight, the company may be allowed to operate its trains within the prohibited periods, but only by giving an hour's notice in advance by telephone to the commission's bureau of complaints and accidents.

LITTLE HOPE FOR NEUSTRIA.

Fabre Freighters Is Now Twenty Days Overdue From Marseilles.

The agents of the Fabre Line steamship Neustria, which sailed hence for Marseilles on October 27 and is now more than twenty days overdue, have little hope of hearing from her agent. She was originally a passenger carrier, but for the last several years has been a freighter. She is commanded by Capt. Thum and has a crew of forty men. In her cargo of miscellaneous stuff was a large quantity of lubricating oil. She was provisioned for fifty days and she is now forty-six days out and has not been spoken since she passed out of the Hook.

REVOLT AGAINST HOUSE RULES.

Twenty-four Republicans Meet and Provide for a Committee to Report Changes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Twenty-four Republican members of the House who threaten a revolt against the adoption by the new Congress of the present House rules assembled in conference to-night to discuss the subject. Representative Hepburn of Iowa presided and Representative Hayes of California acted as secretary.

Those present in addition to Messrs. Hepburn and Hayes were Messrs. Cooper of Wisconsin, Campbell of Kansas, Davis of Minnesota, Ellis of Kansas, each of Wisconsin, Foster of Vermont, Gardner of Massachusetts, Hinchey of Nebraska, Hubbard of Iowa, Kinkaid of Nebraska, Landburgh of Minnesota, Lovering of Massachusetts, McLaughlin of Michigan, McKinley of California, Madison of Kansas, Morse of Wisconsin, Murdock of Kansas, Nelson of Wisconsin, Pollock of Nebraska, Scott of Kansas, Townsend of Michigan and Volstead of Minnesota.

While it was made clear by the Republicans present that they had no intention of joining with the Democrats to overturn the House rules, it is significant that attention was directed to the fact that twenty-five Republicans joining with the minority could effect a change. The Speakership was not discussed to-night, except that it was made clear by a majority of the conferees that they favored Mr. Cannon's reelection.

Various proposed changes in the rules were discussed at length. A resolution was adopted providing for the appointment of a committee of five, of which Mr. Hepburn is to be chairman and was directed to make a report recommending modifications in the rules at another meeting to be held Tuesday night. The committee will be named by Mr. Hepburn to-morrow.

Mr. Hepburn said that at the meeting Tuesday it was expected that at least fifty Republicans would be present. As to the Speakership Mr. Hepburn said: "It was the sense of the meeting that if we are to have a benevolent despot in the chair Mr. Cannon is as good as anybody that could be named."

WAR ON THE LORDS.

Asquith Declines It at Fervid Party Meeting—The Financial Party.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Dec. 11.—The Liberal party and the country generally have been eagerly awaiting Prime Minister Asquith's promised pronouncement regarding the Government's policy in view of the rejection by the House of Lords of the Licensing bill and the prospective financial deficit. Mr. Asquith spoke to-night at a party gathering and he aroused a state of fervid enthusiasm by declaring that henceforth the Liberal party must treat the question of the right of the House of Lords to veto bills as the dominating issue in politics.

He said he had refused to dissolve Parliament as a consequence of the rejection of the Licensing bill by the House of Lords, and he did not intend to dissolve it at the bidding of an irresponsible assembly. The Government would only dissolve Parliament at the time which they with the confidence of their elected and representative supporters, deemed right.

The Government deemed that the financial fight must absorb a large part of the next session. It was satisfactory that they did not have to provide like the two great protectionist countries, for an enormous deficit, respectively estimated at £23,000,000 and £28,000,000, but the task before the Chancellor of the Exchequer was a very severe one. They would be judged by the Budget, which would raise in a most acute form the controversy whether social reform would be financed by free trade or by the allying but impoverishing fallacies of protection.

The increased direct taxation thus hinted at by the Premier is understood to include greatly enhanced license duties from the liquor trade and heavier taxation of land values.

BACK TO FREE SILVER.

Bryan Says It Would Have Averted Last Year's Panic.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 11.—W. J. Bryan left Galveston this morning for Port Arthur, Tex., the home of John W. Gates, where he delivered his "Prince of Peace" lecture to-night. Last night at Galveston he alluded to free silver and said he believed it would have prevented last year's panic.

John W. Gates, who practically owns everything in Port Arthur, wanted Mr. Bryan to be his guest on a deer hunt, but Mr. Bryan declined on the ground that he has serious matters to discuss with his associates. He does not object to hunting predatory animals, he says, but he would not knowingly shed the blood of a deer. He sees no harm in shooting wild ducks, as they do much damage to the rice fields and other growing crops in Texas.

ASKS FOR CONGO GUARANTEES.

Text of British Note Declining to Recognize Transfer to Belgium.

BOSTON, Dec. 11.—The Congo Reform Association received permission to-day to make public the contents of the note sent by the British Government to Belgium declining to recognize the transfer of the Congo to Belgium. The note goes on to say:

"Now the manner in which the Independent State has hitherto been governed has been notoriously different from that obtaining in neighboring territories and has for many years past caused great anxiety to his Majesty's Government on bearing on the state of affairs on the Anglo-Congolese frontier and as giving rise to well grounded fears lest it should injuriously affect the kindred tribes in British territory."

TO INCREASE FREIGHT RATES

AVERAGE 10 PER CENT. WESTWARD, 18 EASTWARD.

Notice of the Increase Has Been Filed With the Interstate Commission, Which Cannot Interfere Until Formal Complaint Is Made by the Shippers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Freight rates on railroads in the United States from the Atlantic seaboard to the Pacific coast will be increased on January 1. From east to west the increases will amount to an average of 10 per cent. From west to east the increases will amount to 18 per cent., the increases ranging from 3 to 50 per cent.

Before January 1 the rail and water lines transporting freight and merchandise from Atlantic ports to Gulf ports will have effective rates showing increases of from 3 to 10 per cent. Beginning August 1 trunk lines reaching into the Southeast and Southwest increased freight rates, so that there is now in sure prospect a uniform increase in freight rates covering the whole United States.

Formal notice of these increases has been placed on file with the Interstate Commerce Commission by the Trunk Line Association, composed of all trunk lines east of Pittsburgh; by the Central Freight Association, composed of lines between Pittsburgh and the Mississippi River, and by the Transcontinental Freight Bureau, composed of lines west of the Mississippi River. All the roads composing these organizations concurred in the advances.

From the Atlantic seaboard to the Pacific coast there will be no advance in class rates, but in commodity rates, which about 90 per cent. of freight traffic moves, there will be an increase of about 10 per cent.

From the Pacific coast to the Mississippi River the transcontinental lines composing the Transcontinental Freight Bureau have agreed on an increase in commodity rates and have made a decrease in class rates. The Central Freight Association and the Trunk Line Association have concurred in these increases, amounting to an average of 18 per cent. on commodity rates and about a similar decrease in class rates.

Many shippers who received advance information of the intention of the railroads to increase their rates have appealed to the Interstate Commerce Commission to prohibit the carriers from making the rates effective, but will be informed that the commission is without authority in the premises; that the railroads have the right to increase rates and that the proper way to proceed is to file formal complaint. The commission would then formally investigate the increases and decide whether they were justified.

The commission, however, has requested the three freight associations to postpone the effectiveness of these rates from the date decided upon, January 1, as the commission has been advised that formal complaint will be filed by commodity organizations and probably by railroad commissions just as soon as they become effective.

Officials of the Interstate Commerce Commission say that this is the most comprehensive and concerted increase in railroad rates ever made by the railroads of the country, and when complaint is filed will afford the commission the first real opportunity to make exhaustive investigation into railroad rates since the passage of the Hepburn regulation act.

Chairman Knapp of the commission declined to make any comment on the increases to-day except to say that when complaint was filed the commission would give speedy hearing and would make a matter of determining if the carriers were justified in increasing the rates. He said that the commission would expedite the inquiry in every possible way.

ACTING POLICE CAPTAIN WINS.

Magistrate Dismisses Charge Against Bourke Because Wrongly Drawn.

Arrested on a charge of oppression made by a saloon keeper, acting Captain Edward J. Bourke of the Hamburg avenue police station, Brooklyn, was assigned yesterday before Magistrate John P. Hyland in the New Jersey avenue court. The charge was dismissed, the Court asserting that the complainant, Leo Rauech, was not the person really aggrieved when Bourke and his men "rushed into his place of business in a disorderly and threatening manner, attempted to invade the private apartments of the complainant and, making an unwarranted arrest, posted two policemen in uniform in said Rauech's place of business until he was closed for the day. All of which was without warrant of law and in violation of section 530 of the Penal Code."

Rauech's saloon is in lower Broadway, Brooklyn. He had rented rooms to a local organization and these rooms were the premises entered by the police. An employee of Rauech was arrested. The local organization should have made the complaint and the case should have been referred to the Police Court. This was his only reason for discharging Bourke.

On last Tuesday Magistrate Hyland criticized Bourke, whom he referred to as a "recent importation from Manhattan," and the methods of Commissioner Bingham. A moving picture show proprietor honorably discharged on a charge made by Bourke declared the police oppressed him and injured his business.

CALHOUN ON TRIAL NEXT.

San Francisco Summons Street Railway Man From New York.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—District Attorney Langdon said to-day that Patrick Calhoun will be the next man to be tried in the graft cases. Calhoun is in New York, but a telegram has been sent requesting him to appear in court next week in order that a date for his trial may be fixed. This cannot be done without his presence. Ahe Ruef will be sentenced by Judge Lawler to-morrow; at least he will be taken into court for that purpose. Ruef is badly broken up over his conviction. He passed a sleepless night in the county jail and this morning he had lost the air of confidence that he wore in court yesterday.

PHYSICIAN KILLED BY FALL.

Wife Sees Dr. Frank R. Baker Tumble From Fourth Story of Their Home.

Dr. Frank Russell Baker, a prominent Brooklyn physician who was a specialist on diseases of the throat and nose, was instantly killed last evening by falling from a fourth story window of his brown-stone residence at 50 Bedford avenue, Williamsburg. He had gone to a front window with a small hammer and chisel to remove a screen and evidently had just removed the screen when he lost his balance and fell. Several persons who were passing the dwelling at the time saw him turn a somersault and strike the basement area on his head.

Dr. Baker's wife was at a front third floor window when she saw the body descending and a moment later discovered the fatality. Dr. George Maher, who lives near by, and Ambulance Surgeon Hurley of the Williamsburg Hospital, who were soon on hand, could do nothing for Dr. Baker and turned their attention to the widow, who was in a state of collapse.

Dr. Baker, who was 39 years old, was a son of Dr. George Washington Baker, a prominent Brooklyn practitioner who died about ten years ago. Dr. Baker was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons about fifteen years ago and became associated with his father in his profession. He belonged to the Kings County Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the New York Physicians Mutual Aid Association. Besides his widow he leaves two children.

CROKER VISITS DR. BULL.

The Physician Had Asked That He Come From Lakewood.

Richard Croker came from Lakewood yesterday for the purpose of calling upon Dr. William T. Bull, who is lying so seriously ill at the Hotel Plaza. It was at the personal request of Dr. Bull that the old Tammany chieftain made the visit yesterday. Mrs. Bull telephoned in the morning to Lakewood telling Mr. Croker that her husband would like to see him. Mr. Croker obeyed the wish immediately.

Coming from Lakewood in an automobile he reached the Hotel Plaza early in the afternoon and was cordially greeted by Dr. Bull. He was permitted to remain, however, only about five minutes. "It does seem a pity," he said to the patient, "to see a man like you lying there after all you have done for other sufferers."

Mr. Croker assured Dr. Bull that if he would get strong enough to stand an ocean voyage and go with him to Glencairn (Mr. Croker's place near Dublin) he could promise that the splendid air and surroundings of his Irish home would soon make an entirely well man of the doctor. Mr. Croker carried with him to the sick chamber a large bunch of orchids.

"I do hope he will get well," Mr. Croker said after his visit. "He is one of the world's greatest doctors, and it was worth coming 3,000 miles to grasp the hand that has saved hundreds of lives. He is not only a great man, but a good man, and one whom this country cannot afford to spare."

Mr. Croker returned at once to Lakewood.

GOV. HUGHES IN TOWN.

And May Announce the New Public Service Commissioner.

Gov. Hughes came down from Albany last night and will remain here until Sunday. At the Hotel Astor, where he is staying, reporters were told last night that the Governor had retired early. Col. Treadwell, his military secretary, said to-day that Governor Hughes had engaged to-day to meet several men of political prominence. It is understood that at these conferences he will discuss with his visitors the qualifications of candidates for the many offices he will be called upon to fill at the beginning of the year.

It was even said that the Governor might have announcements concerning some of the appointments ready this afternoon. So far as could be ascertained the only caller that the Governor saw last night was Chairman William R. Wilcox of the Public Service Commission. Under the act creating the board one commissioner retires each year, and Commissioner Austin of the Bronx will go out of office on February 1 next.

There has been some talk heard that State Civil Service Commissioner R. C. E. Brown might be appointed to succeed Mr. Eustis. Mr. Brown is a resident of Brooklyn, and if the advice of Mr. Wilcox is followed by the Governor the board will continue to have a representative from the Bronx. Although Mr. Wilcox would not speak last night of his interview with the Governor, the probability is that if his advice should be followed Mr. Eustis will be named to succeed himself.

TO SETTLE DROEGE CASE SOON.

Appellate Division Will Announce Decision in Two Weeks.

In the proceedings instituted by the Bar Association and the Mayor for the removal of Magistrate Otto H. Droegge the Appellate Division yesterday heard argument and reserved decision on the motion to confirm the report of William E. Willis, the referee named by the Appellate Division to take testimony and report. Mr. Willis reported that he was convinced that Magistrate Droegge violated the law in granting discharges to men and women whom he had committed to the workhouse for a specified term "not from a mercenary motive but because it had been the practice of all City Magistrates ever since the probation system was put into effect."

Wallace Macfarlane, representing the Bar Association, argued that the law prohibiting the discharge of prisoners except under statutory conditions had been violated and the only defense was that other Magistrates had done the same. Howard Fens, for Mr. Droegge, insisted that the Magistrate had acted honestly in good faith, believing that he was obeying the law or at least the practice of it. The Appellate Division probably will hand down a decision in two weeks either to remove or to exonerate Magistrate Droegge.

LOCKED DOOR HID A MURDER

GIRL DEAD, HER THROAT CUT, FOR TWO WEEKS.

"Flora" Lived With a Flimsily Dressed Man in an East Eleventh Street Flat—Their Life Had Been Complicated Of and Police Watched the Place.

Mrs. Smiler, who is the janitress of the flat house at 337 East Eleventh street, notified Police Headquarters last night that the door to one of the apartments was heavily padlocked outside and that she feared something was wrong, as two tenants who occupied the flat had not been seen in more than two weeks. Acting Captain Carey of the Detective Bureau and several detectives went at once to the house.

They found the door to the apartment which is on the second floor, padlocked inside and out and barred in the bargain. On the doorknobs and elsewhere just outside in the hallway were finger marks of blood which had escaped Mrs. Smiler's notice. Carey got a heavy bar and had the door smashed in.

On the bed in an inner room lay the body of a rather handsome girl of about 22 years, apparently an Italian. Her throat was cut from ear to ear and the head almost severed from the body. Signs of disorder were everywhere. The girl's clothes were torn almost to shreds. What little furniture there was in the apartment was broken and lying scattered about.

Capt. Carey said there must have been a terrific struggle between the girl and her assailant before she was overcome. On the floor was found a razor and near by a bar with two live goldfish in it. The other rooms of the apartment were fairly well furnished, but bore the same evidences of a struggle.

There were absolutely no marks or any other clues to tell anything about either the girl or her murderer.

Dr. Steele, who came from Bellevue Hospital, said the girl had been dead at least two weeks, and this corresponded with the story finally pieced together by the police from tenants in the house.

According to the landlady the girl came there about two months ago with a good looking man of about 35. He wore flashy clothes and had two diamond rings on his fingers, Mrs. Smiler said. The man simply asked for an apartment, was told the present one and took it at once. The two moved in the following day. The only name ever heard was that of the girl when the man once referred to her as Flora.

During their stay little more information was gained, as they kept to themselves so far as the tenants knew. The last evening of either of them was on Thanksgiving eve. The murder was discovered last night because the rent for the apartment came due yesterday and Mrs. Smiler was frightened when she failed to get in.

It came out later last night at Police Headquarters that the girl "Flora" had been the subject of inquiry by Commissioner Bingham about three weeks ago, but the police at that time were unable to see the girl. Detectives Eoullian and Hudson were detailed three weeks ago to look into the flat. Letters received by Commissioner Bingham from people in adjoining houses complained about it.

When the detectives tried to gain an entrance to the flat on two occasions before, they always found it locked and were told that the girl was out. Capt. Carey and a squad of men took hold of the case last night at once, and every effort will be bent toward finding someone who may possibly have seen the man leave the apartment or have overheard any trouble between the two. So far the police have been unable to get even a good description of the man, as he always kept well in the background and was seen in the house only in the dark hallways where a good view of him could not be had.

BINGHAM ON SUPPLY GRAFT.

Police Commissioner Testifies at City Finance Inquiry.

Police Commissioner Bingham and William M. Ivins were the chief witnesses yesterday at the resumed hearing of the legislative committee's inquiry into the city finances.

Mr. Bingham affirmed the testimony of previous witnesses that the city was being continually mulcted not only in higher prices for supplies but in extravagant requisitions. He told of finding when he took office enough rugs to outfit three times all the captains' rooms in the department and enough buckets, coats, rods, rollers, saddles, blankets and other supplies to furnish the department for several years. He referred particularly to an overabundance of paper and when he complained about it to the Comptroller he said he was told that it was right, "the man was honest," meaning the man who had been responsible for the order.

Mr. Ivins devoted considerable time to telling what he thought was the matter with the city's financial methods. He declared that the figures presented by the Comptroller showing a debt limit on November 1 of \$8,000,000 was wholly fallacious as being founded entirely on the Comptroller's view of what should and what should not be included as assets and liabilities of the city. At the same time, Mr. Ivins said, it would be dangerous to permit an increase of the present debt limit either by excluding more bonds or by increasing the limit above 10 per cent. of the assessed valuations.

Mr. Ivins will take the stand again next Tuesday.

CHURCH CORNERSTONE STOLEN.

It Was Laid With Appropriate Exercises Last Sunday.

On last Sunday with appropriate exercises the congregation of the Lamer Memorial Chapel on Holland avenue, Mariners Harbor, Richmond borough, laid the cornerstone of the church building which they are reconstructing. Yesterday it was found that the cornerstone had been taken out of its place in the foundation and with its contents carried away.

MRS. SAGE BUYS UPTOWN BLOCK.

Owms All But Broadway Frontage Now—Pays \$400,000.

A deal was closed last night whereby Mrs. Russell Sage becomes the owner of the entire block between 100th and 110th streets and Broadway and Riverside Drive, with the exception of the Broadway frontage. Mrs. Sage already owned much property in the block, and when the holdings of the Whitcomb estate, consisting of 170 feet on Riverside Drive, 151 feet on 100th street and 110 feet on 110th street, came into the market Mrs. Sage made arrangements to buy it. The price was \$400,000.

The First Church of Christ, Scientist, had an option on the Riverside Drive property bought by Mrs. Sage for the site of a new church, but allowed it to expire.

SHOT BY FRANK ROCKEFELLER.

Quail Hunting Comrade Gets a Few Birdshot in His Face.

BELVIDERE, Kan., Dec. 11.—Joseph T. Bird, vice-president and general manager of the Emery-Bird-Thayer Dry Goods Company of Kansas City, accompanied Frank Rockefeller on a quail hunt on Mr. Rockefeller's ranch at this place last week. A covey of birds rose between the two and both men fired.

Several small shot from Mr. Rockefeller's gun entered Mr. Bird's face. A brace of birds fell wounded at the same time. Mr. Bird went to the ranch house, where the shot were poked out of the flesh and the wounds were treated in a simple manner. His wounds were not serious.

"I was just knocking around the brush out there with Mr. Rockefeller and got a swish," Mr. Bird said to-day. "But were you not shot?" he was asked. "Oh, I guess it was a dog that got shot," he replied. His right eye was inflamed and there were scratches on his face.

LIEUT. GOTTLIEB A DESERTER.

So Declared Because He Disappeared While Under Court-Martial.

BOSTON, Dec. 11.—Lieut. Edward Gottlieb of the Coast Artillery, who disappeared while on trial before a court-martial here last week, has been declared a deserter, and a reward is offered for his capture. If he does not report within ninety days his name will be dropped from the army rolls.

Gottlieb attended two days sessions of the court and heard the beginning of his trial on four charges with thirty-five specifications alleging that he defrauded the Government and committed other offenses, among which were eight absences without leave.

The findings of the court have not been made public.

NEW DIAMOND SYNDICATE.

Trade Paper Hears of a Change—Werner and Solly B. Joel in Control.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. LONDON, Dec. 11.—The African World states that the diamond syndicate has been reconstructed under the control of Werner & Belt and that Barnato Bros. and Dunkels, Rosenthal & Co. remain as the only other members.

Sir Julius Werner and Solly B. Joel will be the managing directors.

NEW THEATRE STARS.

Sothern and Marlowe in the Company—Shakespearean Piece to Start.

There has been considerable speculation about the actors who are to be employed at the New Theatre. The first information of any sort about the company was had yesterday, when it was learned that Julia Marlowe and E. H. Sothern had been engaged as two of the actors.

It became known also that the opening bill for the New Theatre will be a Shakespearean play.

TO WED BRITISH DIPLOMAT.

Daughter of Ex-Senator Cameron Betrothed to Earl of Crawford's Son.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. LONDON, Dec. 11.—The betrothal is announced of Martha, daughter of ex-Senator J. Donald Cameron of Pennsylvania, and the Hon. Robert Lindsay, fifth, Earl of Crawford.

Mr. Lindsay was formerly First Secretary of the British Embassy in Washington. About a year ago he was transferred to Paris as First Secretary of the British Embassy there. He is 31 years old.

RUSSIAN PALACES LOOTED.

Byzantine Antiquities That Cost \$1,000,000 Replaced by Forgeries.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. LONDON, Dec. 12.—The Mail prints a St. Petersburg despatch saying that a number of famous Byzantine antiquities in the Hermitage Museum and the Winter Palace have been replaced by imitations. The manner of the disposal of the originals cannot be traced. The treasures were bought in Paris by Alexander III. for \$1,000,000.

PRESIDENT MAY FIGHT BACK

PROSPECT OF UGLY BRACE BETWEEN HIM AND CONGRESS.

The Action of the House on the Message and the Panama Canal Purchase Were the Chief Subjects of Discussion in the Cabinet Meeting Yesterday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—The subject which occupied President Roosevelt's attention to-day, almost to the exclusion of other matters, were the Panama Canal purchase and the prospect that Congress may take some action in regard to that part of his annual message dealing with the employment of the Secret Service. The regular meeting of the Cabinet to-day was an unusually long one, and both these matters were talked over between the President and his advisers.

While the meeting was in progress news was received from the Capitol that the House had passed the resolution appointing a committee of five of its members to consider what should be done to express the resentment of that body on account of what a majority of Congressmen regard as a serious affront on the part of the President.

Shortly before 1 o'clock Speaker Cannon arrived at the White House, presumably by invitation, and the meeting of the Cabinet was interrupted long enough for the President to have a somewhat protracted conversation with the Speaker. What was said is a matter of conjecture, as no information was obtainable on the subject at the White House and Speaker Cannon declined to answer any questions. When asked pointedly whether his visit had anything to do with the resolution which the House had just passed or with the question of passing the Rainey resolution, an investigation of the so-called Panama scandal, Mr. Cannon replied, "I neither affirm nor deny."

It was also regarded as a matter of some significance that during the Cabinet meeting John E. Wilkie, chief of the Secret Service, arrived at the White House and remained there for more than an hour.

It is the general belief of persons who talked with the President to-day that Mr. Roosevelt will not allow the Secret Service matter to drop in case either branch of Congress takes formal action indicative of its deep sense of resentment over the remarks contained in his message. Just what the President expects to do in such an event could not be learned to-day, but that he will put forth some message, letter or statement of a public character on this subject is regarded as a certainty.

One conjecture is that Mr. Roosevelt will reply to any action which the House or Senate may take by peremptorily asking as to just what he meant when he said in his message that members of Congress had restricted the employment of the Secret Service through fear that they themselves would be investigated by Secret Service officers.

This supposition was much talked about to-day, and the prospect that a still more sensational situation will result from this incident was discussed with intense interest by members of Congress and others. It is realized that the present situation has in it the possibilities of an ugly breach between the Executive and Congress and that the condition may become such as to be deplored throughout the country and attract unfavorable attention abroad.

The President was also busy to-day in connection with the scandal which some